

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00402 101529Z
ACTION CU-05

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-----106161 101536Z /53

O 101410Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
SECSTATE WASHDC 6513

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LONDON FOR RRU, VIENNA FOR RPO, USIA FOR IOP/DA, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, UR
SUBJECT: ANSEL ADAMS EXHIBIT

REF: (A) 77 MOSCOW 17500, (B) 77 WARSAW 9065,(NOTAL)
(C) 77 USIA 34558

1. POST APOLOGIZES FOR LACK OF INFORMATION FROM THIS QUARTER IN RECENT WEEKS ON ADAMS EXHIBIT. COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS WITHIN MOSCOW BRANCH OF UNION OF GRAPHIC ARTISTS, WHICH VOLUNTEERED TO SPONSOR EXHIBIT (REF A), SUBSEQUENTLY CONTRACTED NEAR-FATAL CASE OF COLD FEET, DURING WHICH TIME COMMITTEE FELT UNABLE TO PROCEED WITH EXHIBIT ARRANGEMENTS WITHOUT SOME OFFICIAL IMPRIMATUR FROM "HIGHER-UPS". WE PURSUED MINISTRY OF CULTURE, MFA, MOSCOW CITY COUNCIL AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CULTURAL UNIONS TO TRY TO GET SOMEONE TO GIVE GREEN LIGHT TO COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS, ALL TO NO AVAIL. GOVERNMENT BODIES SAID THEY HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NO AUTHORITY OVER "SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS", WHILE "SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS(I.E. COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS) INSISTED THEY NEEDED OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL. THIS GLACIER-LIKE "CATCH-22" PROCESS CONSUMED AN ENTIRE MONTH AND WE HAD LITERALLY GIVEN UP HOME WHEN CAVALRY CAME TO RESCUE JANUARY 9.

2. WELL-KNOWN NATURALIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER VASILY PESKOV

(PARTICIPANT IN AUGUST 1977 "PHOTO-USA" SEMINAR) LEARNED OF SNAFU AND WITHIN ONE DAY SEEMS TO HAVE SORTED OUT BUREAUCRATIC KINKS. PESKOV HAS PERSUADED "PLANETA" PUBLISHING HOUSE (WHOSE DIRECTOR, GENNADIY KOVALENKO, CHAIRED "PHOTO-USA" SEMINAR MENTIONED ABOVE) TO SPREAD ITS MANTLE OVER THE ENTERPRISE. SITE AND SHOWING PERIOD REMAIN SAME AS NOTED IN REF A, BUT PLANETA NOW JOINS COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS AS CO-SPONSOR.

3. NET RESULT OF ABOVE IS THAT WE LOST EXTREMELY VALUABLE TIME AND ARE NOW FACED WITH SEVERAL PROBLEMS AND LITTLE TIME TO RESOLVE THEM. POST HAS RECEIVED ADAMS VOICE TAPE (WELCOMING MESSAGE TO VISITORS) AND COMPLETE BIO DATA FROM RRU BUT NEEDS INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING POINTS SOONEST RPT SOONEST:

A) FOR RRU - CAN YOU OBTAIN LARGE PHOTO OF ADAMS THAT YOU CAN SEND TO US? CAN ALSO USE NEGATIVE IF AVAILABLE TO MAKE EXTRAS FOR PUBLICITY.

(B) FOR AGENCY (IOP/DA) - REF C MENTIONS POSSIBLE AVAILABILITY OF SLIDES OF ADAMS' WORK. HOW SOON CAN WE OBTAIN? IN WHAT QUANTITIES? AT WHAT COST?

(C) FOR RPO - IF WE SUPPLY TRANSLITERED RUSSIAN TEXT, HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO RUN OFF ATTRACTIVE INVITATION?

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(D) FOR WARSAW - ASSUME EXHIBIT STILL ON SCHEDULE TO ARRIVE HERE JANUARY 16 PER REF B.
MATLOCK

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